

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the field of the education of migrant workers and their families,

Having taken note of the report of the Economic and Social Council,⁷³

1. *Calls upon* all States, taking into account the provisions of the relevant instruments adopted by the International Labour Organisation and of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, to take measures to prevent and put an end to all discrimination against migrant workers and to ensure the implementation of such measures;

2. *Invites* all States, particularly host countries, to give the widest possible dissemination, *inter alia* through the mass media, to information aimed at promoting better public understanding of the contribution of migrant workers to the economic growth and social and cultural development of those countries and at fostering a climate of mutual understanding;

3. *Also invites* the Governments of host countries to adopt the necessary measures to prevent any activity that might be prejudicial to the interests of migrant workers;

4. *Again invites* the Governments of host countries to give consideration to adopting definitive measures to promote in their territories a normal family life for migrant workers by reuniting families;

5. *Expresses the hope* that the Commission on Human Rights will submit to the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1979 the study recommended in General Assembly resolution 32/120, on the basis of the concrete proposals formulated by the Working Group established pursuant to Council resolution 1978/22;

6. *Calls upon* all States to give consideration to ratifying the Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975, adopted by the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to explore with Member States and in co-operation with the United Nations agencies, particularly the International Labour Organisation, the possibility of drawing up an international convention on the rights of migrant workers;

8. *Invites* the Governments of host countries to adopt measures to ensure that the children of migrant workers receive genuinely equal treatment in the field of education and training;

9. *Also invites* those Governments to co-operate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization with a view to enabling migrant workers and their families to benefit from all necessary opportunities in the field of education in order to enable them to participate fully in the life of the society of the host country while preserving their national and cultural identity.

90th plenary meeting
20 December 1978

⁷³ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/33/3), paras. 319-321.

33/164. Assistance to South African student refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 31/126 of 16 December 1976 and 32/119 of 16 December 1977 concerning assistance to South African student refugees,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 417 (1977) of 31 October 1977 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1978/55 of 2 August 1978, in which, *inter alia*, an appeal was made to all Governments, organizations and United Nations agencies to make generous contributions to the United Nations emergency programmes of assistance to South African student refugees,

Deeply concerned by the discriminatory education policies and repressive measures being applied by the Government of South Africa against black students in that country,

Noting that the Governments concerned expect the flow of student refugees from South Africa into their countries to continue while these discriminatory policies and repressive measures are maintained,

Aware that the continued influx of South African student refugees fleeing from these repressive policies continues to cause pressure on the available educational and other facilities in neighbouring countries offering asylum to those students,

Recognizing the need to provide assistance to those countries to help them to provide adequate facilities to the student refugees,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General⁷⁴ containing the findings of the review missions sent by him to Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia in May and June 1978 to examine the status of the programmes of assistance to South African student refugees,

Recognizing that the international assistance provided so far has made possible the implementation of major components of the emergency assistance programmes for South African student refugees in the region, but that further international assistance is still required for their care, subsistence and education,

1. *Endorses* the assessment and recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General and commends him and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on their efforts to mobilize resources and organize the programmes of assistance to South African student refugees in the host countries;

2. *Notes with appreciation* that the Governments of Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia continue to grant asylum and make educational and other facilities available to the student refugees in spite of the pressure which the continuing influx of these refugees exerts on facilities in their countries;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the contributions made by various States, United Nations agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations towards meeting the needs of South African student refugees;

4. *Expresses concern* that, in spite of the contributions made so far, the needs of South African student refugees continue to increase;

5. *Requests* all agencies and programmes of the United Nations system, including the United Nations

⁷⁴ A/33/163 and Corr.1.

Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the International Labour Organisation, the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa and the World Food Programme, to continue assisting the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in carrying out the humanitarian function entrusted to him;

6. *Urges* all States, United Nations agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute generously to the assistance programmes for these students, both through financial support and by offering further opportunities for their educational and vocational training, as well as by financial and material contributions for their care and maintenance;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue all efforts necessary for an effective programme of educational and other appropriate assistance for the South African student refugees in Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Zambia;

8. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to keep the matter under review and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session, through the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1979, on the progress made in these programmes.

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20 December 1978*

33/165. Status of persons refusing service in military or police forces used to enforce apartheid

The General Assembly,

Mindful that the Charter of the United Nations sets forth, as one of the purposes of the Organization, the achievement of international co-operation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recalling article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,⁷⁵ which states that everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion,

Conscious that the Proclamation of Teheran,⁷⁶ the Lagos Declaration for Action against *Apartheid*⁷⁷ and other United Nations declarations, conventions and resolutions have condemned *apartheid* as a crime against the conscience and dignity of mankind,

Having regard to section II, paragraph 11, of the Lagos Declaration, which proclaims that the United Nations and the international community have a special responsibility towards those imprisoned, restricted or exiled for their struggle against *apartheid*,

Taking note of the report of the Special Committee against *Apartheid*,⁷⁸

⁷⁵ Resolution 217 A (III).

⁷⁶ *Final Act of the International Conference on Human Rights, Teheran, 22 April-13 May 1968* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.68.XIV.2), chap. II.

⁷⁷ *Report of the World Conference for Action against Apartheid, Lagos, 22-26 August 1977* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.77.XIV.2 and corrigendum), sect. X.

⁷⁸ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 22 (A/33/22 and Corr.1).*

1. *Recognizes* the right of all persons to refuse service in military or police forces which are used to enforce *apartheid*;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to grant asylum or safe transit to another State, in the spirit of the Declaration on Territorial Asylum,⁷⁹ to persons compelled to leave their country of nationality solely because of a conscientious objection to assisting in the enforcement of *apartheid* through service in military or police forces;

3. *Urges* Member States to consider favourably the granting to such persons of all the rights and benefits accorded to refugees under existing legal instruments;

4. *Calls upon* appropriate United Nations bodies, including the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations, to provide all necessary assistance to such persons.

*90th plenary meeting
20 December 1978*

33/166. Question of a convention on the rights of the child

The General Assembly,

Having in mind its resolution 31/169 of 21 December 1976, in which it proclaimed the year 1979 International Year of the Child,

Recalling its resolution 32/109 of 15 December 1977, in which it, *inter alia*, reaffirmed that the major focus of the International Year of the Child should be at the national level, but that this should be supported by regional and international co-operation,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 20 (XXXIV) of 8 March 1978⁸⁰ and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1978/18 of 5 May 1978 and 1978/40 of 1 August 1978,

Bearing in mind that, since the adoption of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child,⁸¹ nineteen years have already elapsed, and that during this time the principles of the Declaration have played a significant part in the promotion of the rights of children in the entire world as well as in shaping various forms of international co-operation in this sphere,

Considering that during these nineteen years the conditions to take further steps by adopting a convention on the rights of the child have been created,

Conscious of the need to strengthen further the comprehensive care and the well-being of children all over the world,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the decision of the Commission on Human Rights at its thirty-fourth session, in its resolution 20 (XXXIV), to continue at its thirty-fifth session, as one of its priorities, its consideration of a draft convention on the rights of the child;

⁷⁹ Resolution 2312 (XXII), annex.

⁸⁰ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1978, Supplement No. 4 (E/1978/34)*, chap. XXVI, sect. A.

⁸¹ Resolution 1386 (XIV).